

Canto 96

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EZRA POUND

Canto 96

Κρήδεμνον . . .

κρήδεμνον . . .

and the wave concealed her,

dark mass of great water.

Aestheticisme comme politique d'eglise, hardly religion.

& on the hearth burned cedar and juniper . . .

that should bear him thru these diafana

Aether pluit numismata

Tellus vomit cadavera,

Thusca quae a thure,

from the name of the incense, in this province is

ROMA quae olim

In the province of Tuscany is Rome, a city which formerly

And Sabines with a crow on their flag.

Brennus came for the wine, liking its quality,

Bergamo, Brescia, Ticino,

& inviting his wife to drink from her father's skull

(Cunimundus) a cup which I, Paulus, saw . .

that Tiberius Constantine was distributist,

Justinian, Chosroes, Augustae Sophiae,

lumina mundi, ἐπικόμβια . . . τὸν λαόν

or a hand out. 586 chronologically

(more or less)

Authar, marvelous reign, no violence and no passports,

Vitalis beati

More water about San Zeno than had flowed since the days of Noah

on the 16th of November

15th of Childibert, a.D. 589

water and snakes over the granaries.

Theodolinda, Theuderic from Brunhilda,

Roma caput Ecclesiae, the persians into Jerusalem

and my grand-dad got out of what is now Jugoslavia

with a bow, arrows and a wolf acting as guide

till it thought gramp looked too hungry,

comes itineris

Rothar touched with the aryan heresy

put father, son, ghost in that order
 whereas we catholics stand for equality,

And here, 77 years, lombards had been in Ticino,
 and Rothar got some laws written down
 and a prolog, dope already used,
 even the snake cult,

585

concubines, bacchatur, and a murder in
 San Giovanni's basilica.

Constans Augustus stripped the brass tiles from the Pantheon,
 shipped 'em toward Constantinople,
 and got bumped off in his bath

in Siracusa.

620

Reyna says the lombards struck gold for St. Michael
 (Migne 95, 620)

Cedwald, Architriclin

From the golden font, kings lie in order of generation

Cuningpert elegant, and a warrior

de partibus Liguriae . . . lubricus

Aripert sank, auro gravatus, because he was carrying gold.

Who shall learn throstle's note from banded thrush

by the wind in the holly bush

Floods came in the Via Lata

and from St. Peter's down to the bridge, Ponte Milvio
 et quia Karolus followed Pippin,

not Plectrude's son but Alpaide's

Wait, wait, Martel father of Pippin,

Pippin of Charlemagne,

Alpaide's son, one of 'em, not Plectrude's

empty grave outside San Zeno, to the right as you face it,
 another bloke in Milano, "seven Cardinals attended his funeral,"
 apud Pictavium, Aquitaine, Narbonne and Proença.

Martel, that would be in the "thirties,"

Lombards pro Carolus:

ACTUM TICINI IN PALATIO,

et Arimnium, a stone in Modena by the ambon . .

sent his son to Luitprand for a hair cut,

kept peace with franks and avars

verbo et actu corruscans

Wang's middle name not in Mathews



in the second year of Eirene sent Constans to Carolus Magnus
 sardonix pario, lilia mixta rosis,
 at Tyana some idea they disapproved of.
 DIOCLETIAN, 37th after Augustus, thought: more if we tax 'em
 and don't annihilate. Haud procul Salonis
 not far from Salo otio senuit, quietly aging,
 and alleged Saturn started brass currency
 "changing bowers for travertine"
 Vespesiano serenitas . . . urbes renovatae
 Under Antoninus, 23 years without war . . . apud Eboricum,
 Severus' wife spoke to Philostratus about the biography
 and about 1165 of the City (A.U. ab urbe)
 Galla Placidia,

Pictorum,
 Vandali,

"called Bosphorus from the bull tax"
 treaty with lombards under Justinian,
 goths out of Verona et Brixia,
 all italian "reip." under law.

A memorial to archivists and librarians:
 Bernicoli in Ravenna, and that stuffed-shirt who
 wrote such an elegant postcard.
 Some sort of embargo, Theodora died in the 19th Justinian.
 And the money sellers Ablavius and Marcellus
 thought they would bump off Justinian.
 A flood of fads swilled over all Europe.

But there could have been two Abduls
 and it would not have annoyed one.

That is something to note. I mean as
 personality, when one says "oriental." The third bahai
 said nothing remarkable. Edgar Wallace had his kind of modesty.
 Caedual went to Roma, baptised 689 by some counting.
 And the Eparch's book was down somewhere under all of this,
ΕΠΙΤΡΑΧΙΝΟΝ ΒΙΒΛΙΟΝ.

After 500 years, still sacrificed to that sea gull,
 a colony of Phaeacians *θῆνα θελύσες*
 ALDFRID, King of Northumbria, Nordanhymbrorum
 defunctus 7 oh 5,
 Aldhelm, against errors of Britons,
 pro virginity in hexameters,

de Metaplasmo, De Sinalimpha, &
 fads for some hundred years,
 a comet with its face toward Aquilo,
 fussed about hair-cuts,
 an appeal to reason is about a 13%
 appeal to reality,
 job-hunting in our time, and in the 3rd/ year of Justin
 Sophia Augusta
 made the money-sellers cough up something or other,
 pecuniarium venditoribus, and in the 12th
 took over the synagog,
 heaped fads on Eleusis, flame under the rubble
 TIBERIUS 5, 7, 3
 by his spending 發
 Thrax, Cappadox,
 Lombards, Avars.
 (Theophanem sequitur.)
 Lombards in Exarchate, MAURICIUS Imperator
 Barbarians enjoyed Roman calamities,
 calamitatibus delectabantur,
 equestribus speculationibus and by dealings
 urbem splendidam reddidit,
 this is MAURICIUS, five seventy seven,
 and of course there is no local freedom
 without local control of local purchasing power.
 Del Mar spotted “bronze to the cities,”
 sanguinibus gaudium, homicidiis amorem,
 infidelitatem, jactantiam et violentiam (Hormisdæ).
 Priscus copped the king drunk
 (Musacius) @ his brother’s wake,
 aerumnae non defuerunt variae,
 plenty of shindies, assorted,
 With eyes pervanche,
 all under the Moon is under Fortuna

震

CHEN,

e che permutasse.

With castled ships and images Dei Matris,
 HERACLIUS, six, oh, two
 imperator simul et sponsus,
 found the "reip's" business unstuck,
 that is, Avars made Europe a desert,
 Persians exterminated all Asia

Chosdroes (Second) pro sun **H**.

& melted down the church vessels & coined them

νομίσματα καὶ μυριάσια

(which is not in Liddell D.D.),

The Deacon, col. 1026, thinks it "argenteos,"
 nummos aureos et argenteos, HERACLIUS versus Chosdroes
 coined candle-sticks to keep off Chosdroes

εἰκόνας

Justinian 527

Tiberius Justin

Mauricius 577

Phocas

Heraclius, six oh two, all dates approximate.

Deutschland unter Dulles, U.S.A., slightly nostalgic
 by the boat-bridge over Euphrates.

Wintered then in Sebastia,

Laws aim? is against coercion.

And called them the Golden Spears, *Χρυσολόχας*,
 Avars, Bulgars, Gepidae,

 quatenus Hunnos,

 against the City, Fu Lin.

Turcos quas Cazaros vocant. Six eighteen, that is.

God's Mother superlaudabilis

 populus epulantes

 Deum glorificantes,

pepper & zinziber, tigrides mirae magnitudinis

 live ones, and antelopes,

and in sky a great phantom

 from Mesembra to Arcturus

 preannouncing Arabian power

and in the 11th of Constans ashes from heaven,

 in the 12th Muhavis broke the Colossus

that had stood thirteen sixty years,

 mille tre centos sexaginta, and

 sold goo camel-loads, aere oneravit, of its brass

to a jew
 (all this chronology seven years less than the accepted).
 Habdimelich made peace with the 2nd Justinian
 . . . contra Zubir and burnt his home and his idols
 with their idolator, sed suscipere, we are getting to
 the crux of one matter

Anno sexto imperii sui Justinianus (the second)
 pacem, quam ad Habdimelich habuit, ex amentia
 dissolvit, et omnem Cypriorum insulam, et populum
 irrationabiliter voluit transmigrare, et characterem
 qui missus fuerat ab Habdimelich, eum noviter visus
 esset . . . et his auditis Habdimelich satanice stimu-
 latus rogabat ne pax solveretur, sed suscipere mon-
 etam suam, cum Arabes non suscipere Roma-
 norum incisionem in suis nummis. Verum dato
 pondere auri ait: Nullum Romanis damnum effici-
 tur, ex eo quod Arabes nova cuderent.
 Quod et factum est, et misit Habdimelich ad aedifi-
 candum templum Muchan, et voluit auferre co-
 lumnas. . . .

—col. 1060, The Deacon, Migne's Patrologia.

In fact this item, with that bit from the Eparch's edict
 which was still there for Kemal in our time,

PANTA HREI, said DuBellay translating,
 the base shall we say, and the slide of Byzantium,
 bags, baskets full of, presumably, coinage,
 and lured twenty thousand slavons.
 And in the 7th Absimaros Habdimelich died
 and Justinian came back thru the aqueduct.
 Franks out of Thrace in periplum,
 Blood in Watling St, ruin'd by vicarious government.

Hyacinthinis,
μεγαλοζήλων why not fake purple,
 vocabulary not Dr. Liddell's,
 chastised and brought into the house (coom ben)
 verberator et bonis mulcator
παιδενέσθω καὶ εἰσκομιζέσθω
 register all silk purchases over ten aurei

δέκα νομισμάτων (Nicole: purpleos vestes) τὰ βλαττία
 but the ἀναιδῶς is rather nice, Dr. Nicole,
 before the μὴ ἀυξάνοντες ἢ ἐλαττοῦντες τὴν τιμὴν
 and the idea of just price is somewhere,
 the haggling, somewhere,

also

ἀλογίστους quite beautifully used tho' utopian		紫	tzu ⁸
καπηλεύων or		之	chih ¹
στομύλος that is "mouthy" ἀγοραῖος forensic		奪	to ²⁻⁵
λάλος babbler		朱	chu ¹

ταραχῶδης as on the East bank from Beaucaire
 μὴ τῇ τοῦ ἐπάρχου ἐσφραγισμένον
 not stamped with the prefect's seal βούλλη
 καμπανὸν νενοθευμένον
 Ducange: στατήρ
 Here, surely, is a refinement of language

If we never write anything save what is already understood, the field of understanding will never be extended. One demands the right, now and again, to write for a few people with special interests and whose curiosity reaches into greater detail.

ἢ καὶ νομίσματα ξέει
 Wd/ appear to be tetarteron tokens
 not affecting the aureus
 vel pactum pretium augens
 and a few words about hoarding
 καιρὸν ἐνδείας ἀποθησαυρίζῃ
 ἐνοίκιον house rent
 αὔξων ἐνοίκιον
 "Sire, dist Hues . ."

that was de Bosschère,
 leather for carriages, not for footwear,
 Xoirempers do not buy sheep
 or hide pigs in the house of an arkhon
 οἶκον ἀρχοντικόν
 Who useth an unstamped stater
 ad pretium empti
 κατὰ τὴν ἐξώνησιον νομίσματος ἐνὸς
 that's how Nicole slanted it, grave on the omicron,
 meaning one aureus, bankers
 to profit one keration 2 miliarisia
 μηδεμιᾶ λειτουργία
 and no liturgy (as above)
 nor their beasts,
 but that baking be uninterrupted
 and that they take due care against fire.
 TAVERNERS are to inform the prefect of wine's arrival
 that he arrange the modus of sale
 οἰκονομία . . . ὅπως . . . πιπράσκεισθαι
 constraining 'em to analogous ezonesis.
 Stathmos, usually weight & aggaía, vessels
 fitting in, working together.
 The stathmon shd/ hold 30 litras
 and the mina, as it is called, shd/ be 3,
 And on great holidays and the Lord's day κυριακαῖς
 not to open before 2 o'clock
 by whatever 2 that was reckoned
 δευτέρας ὥρας
 and at the second hour of night
 ἀσφαλίζειν
 lock up & σβεννύειν τὰ λεβήτια
 put out their cook-fires
 λέβης, a cauldron
 & those who have been loafing all day there
 not to come back @ night and raise ructions
 τοῦ οἴνου ἐμφορούμενοι
 "Constantinople" said Wyndham "our star,"
 Mr. Yeats called it Byzantium,
 emphorio, to be borne about, to be filled with
 oinos, the fermented

katakremnízo, to throw down or headlong
 diaphora, variance
 bias, vigors
 and if wine-seller be found with false measures
 & not bearing the proper seal
 shall be smacked, cropped and
 put out of the sunthema *ἐκδιωκέσθωσαν*
 ΠΕΠΙ ΛΕΓΑΤΑΡΙΟΥΤ
 seem to be foreign importers,
 are to stay 3 months only,
 the name ΒΟΘΡΩΝ ought to explain what it means
διασημαίνεται but doesn't exactly
 dealin' with animals *βοτόν, βοτήρ* in the Foro Amastriani
τῶν ζώων τὰς αἰτίας
 some animals are imperfect.
 RE all contractors for fine work, plaster,
 marble, askothurariōn, paint & the rest of 'em
 ΛΕΠΤΟΤΡΓΩΝ
 an askós is a leather bag,
 with inane loquacity hoisting the wages
αὔξει τοὺς μισθοὺς σκαιότητι τῶν λόγων
 lubberly, westerly *στομυλία*
 the stench of the profit motive has covered their names
 and that louse G. burnt the Palatine
 and messed up the music
 to speak clearly
ἀπληστία, insatiate κακουργία
 This is not a mere stunt to lay fines
 as is found in the hodge-podge.
θόλος a round building
καμάρα arched over
 all *ἀσφάλειαν* to be unlikely to fall
ἐμπειρίαν & experienced
θεμέλιος the foundation, not wobbly *σαθρός*
 After all Justinian's boy *had* built Santa Sophia
 "vurry," says Pearson, N. H. "in'erestin'."
 out of odd hollows and solids
μὴ τὸ κτιζόμενον λοξόν, slanty
 There is an ideogram somewhere in Morrison,
 de Saumase, de Reitz

πυρὸς, ἀέρος, ὄδατος, γῆς
 after Julien d'Askalon: fire, air, water, earth,
 the old men on the swaying *τραπέζιον*
βυρσοδέψαι, raw leather
μαλακατάριοι, softeners, second process
βυρσοποιοί
μάγκιπες the baker from his *four*,
 governors, oveners
 No yugo-slav to propose to a girl
 until he has planted trees, 50 olives
 (Ronnie, this year)
ἐγκύκλιος παιδευσίς
 and the chaplains of cabarets
 & that Nicephoras
 kolobozed the tetarteron
 need not have applied to the aureus
 or caused Nicole to understand token coinage
 in the long war between *episkeptiks*
 and any *andrárion agorían kai bánauson*
 (currently rendered as s.o.b.)
 12% says Nicole, illegal
κατὰ τὴν ποιότητα
 (*τῶν ζώων*)
 acc. the quality.
 Good-bye to the sun, Autumn is dying
Χαίρε ὁ Ἥλιος
 whom the ooze cannot blacken
Χαίρε clarore.

And in the sixth year of this Justinian the devil got
 into Habdimelich, satanice stimulus, who said if
 we put the same amount of gold into our coinage it
 will do no harm to the Romans. Ut supra, as before
 stated in latin. And he wanted some columns for
 Muchan.

iustitiae . . . nihil antiquius

“Honest feathers” says Dante, or: “What about murder?”

De Officiis, TWO, 89: “Quid occidere?”

Pascere satis, or in the '20s (our time)

driving latin out of the schools
 (France or whereso)
 humiles non omnes improbi. Cicero
 mousing round the edge of the paddock.
 "An ater, an albus" Catullus in interrogative.
 "Queer cuss with a sense of humour," Tully observing:
 Nihil antiquius
 and no such blue north of Capri
 as on the side toward Peschiera,
 Ocelle Veronensis.
 Under Leo ΕΠΑΡΧΙΚΟΝ ΒΙΒΑΙΟΝ
 "Following God's example Our Serenity
 (γαληνότης, as of the sea)
 to stop trampling by one on another
 have codified πολιτικῶν σωματείων
 (To Professor Nicole's annoyance) Leo 886-911
 : may buy linen to line bombazine
 "les arrhes du marché" re/ the drapers
 βασιλεῦσι Λέων
 And the notary
 must have some general culture or he will
 make a mess of the contracts.
 : may buy gold, silver, pearls,
 but not copper
 ni cuivre ni tissu de lin
 that is, not for resale.
 Not hoard 'em and hold for a rise,
 any perfumer
 who wangles to get another's rent hoisted
 κατὰ δόλον ἐπαύξων
 shall be shaved, whipped and chucked out.
 And not hold up coin either;
 foreigners to sell in three months and leave,
 Perfumers not to buy groceries,
 but nard, aloe-wood, cinnamon,
 stick to what's sold on a two pan balance, not a "romaine,"
 a stadera, one of those things with a yard-arm.
 Let him be either perfumer or grocer,
 Candle-makers to work in their own ergastorios;
 and that

grocers may open shops anywhere
 so that one can get groceries anywhere/
 And if his weights aren't stamped with the prefect's seal
 he shall be flogged, cropped and banished
 profits at 16 and $\frac{3}{4}$ ths (two miliarisia)
 No baker or mill beast shall be subject to other service,
 bread must go on,
 No ovens in anyone's cellar
 and that they go to the Prefect when the grain price
 rises or falls
 to find the right bread price,
 Whoso tries any monkey-shines
 shall be put on a jackass and led through the streets quite
 slowly,
 flogged, shaved, and put out. Wine shops
 will close at 8 in the evening.
 Anybody wanting to put up a cupola must prove experience.
 If a wall falls inside of ten years the builder,
 unless he can prove god's wrath must
 put it up again at his own cost.
 To be tabulary, must know the Manuel
 to recite it, and the Basiliks, 60 books
 and draw up an act in the presence, and be sponsored
 by the primicier and his colleagues
 and have a clear Handschrift
 and be neither babbler nor insolent, nor sloppy in habits
 and have a style. Without perfect style
 might not notice punctuation and phrases
 that alter the sense,
 and if he writes down a variant
 his sponsors will be responsible.
 Give him time to show what he's got.
 And the smoke at his consecration,
 incense *θυμίαμα ἐνώπιον Κυρίου*
 shows how his thought shd/ go. Upward, videlicet.
 And be fined if he miss procession
 and the college shall go to his funeral.
 SILVERSMITHS may buy what pertains to their trade,
 not copper,
οὐ μὴν χαλκὸν

nor linen save for their personal use.
 If ladies (? εἴ τις) want to sell jewelry
 let the goldsmith report to the Prefect &
 Be sure it is not for export.
 If they adulterate
 Shall cost 'em a hand χειροκοπέισθω
 Ὁ δόλον ποιῶν εἰς ἀσήμιον
 If foreigners try to sell the two metals,
 report it.
 If a silversmith buy sacred vessels, intact or otherwise,
 let him report this to the Eparch
 and a goldsmith report purchase of any unmarked
 gold over one pound;
 Work to be done ἐν . . . τῆς Μέσης on Main St.
 Not in the goldsmith's home
 And no one to be brought into the guild without notice
 (aveu du prefet) What was the greek for aveu
 in this instance? εἰδήσεως τοῦ ἐπάρχου
 rather nice use of *aveu*, Professor,
 though you were looking at *ἀνευ*.
 From the Palace, half-circle that street is,
 ending near the seven-towered castello.
 Bankers not to file coins
 nor make false ones
 Nor put a slave (δούλον) in charge of their business
 Καταλλάκτης () κεκομμένον (double m)
 If they do not notify counterfeits that come in
 and from whom
 shall be flogged, shaved and exiled
 And in this there can have been few innovations
 And before this was that affair of Habdimelich
 Anno sexto imperii, of the Second Justinian
 “pacem.”